



Billy Hynes
Acoura

Sent by email
Date: 26/06/2017

Request for variation to the MSC General Certification Requirement to extend the 15 working day objection period by 5 working days (FCR 7.18.1) for the North Sea Brown Shrimp Fishery

Dear Billy,

I write with reference to your submission on 18/07/2017 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

The extension of the 15 working day objection period by 5 working days.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR 7.18.1 state:

CABs shall note that an objection may be lodged with the MSC's Independent Adjudicator in conformity with the MSC Objections Procedure found in Annex PD during a period of 15 working days from the posting of the Final Report and Determination on the MSC website.

These are integral to ensuring all MSC accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies operate in a consistent and transparent manner. The MSC intends that these requirements be met across all fisheries and CoC certificate holders, except in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, as part of the MSC programme.

MSC notes the factors presented supporting your request, including:

- The timing of the release of the Final Report has landed in the middle of the EU summer holiday season.
- The additional 5 working days is proposed to mitigate the impact of this timing on stakeholders and allow time for appropriate response.
- This extension will not compromise the 18 month deadline allowed for the Final Report to be published.

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case subject to the following conditions:

- Stakeholders are informed, including an updated timeline on the MSC website.



If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery.

Marine Stewardship Council

cc: Accreditation Services International